

## ***Hampton Roads Regional LHRC Meeting***

**November 16, 2005**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Marylin Copeland initiated an informal meeting at 9:50 AM in the absence of a quorum. At 10:20 AM a quorum was present.

### **II. INTRODUCTIONS:**

Quorum present: Mary Baylor, Marylin Copeland, and Sara Flippens.  
Quorum absent: Dr. Roderick S. Hawthorne, LHRC Chairman, and Wanda Ward.

Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS, present: Reginald Daye.

Affiliate Representatives: Phil Black, Commonwealth Support Systems; Gilbert Hernandez, Jr., Community Services of Virginia, Inc.; Joan Whitted, Emerson Place, Inc.; Jeffrey Moore & Juanita Austin, Family Redirection Institute, Inc.; Victor Moody & Ethel Heyward, G.R.A.C.E., Inc.; Paulette Eloy, James Bentley Treatment Program; Kimberly Pervall, Northwestern Human Services, Inc.; Bill Miller, Sentara Mental Health Services; Joanna Stinespring, Sentara Senior Behavioral Health Services; Kenyette Bishop, Tranquility Manor, LLC; and Cynthia Whitehead, Unique Friends, LLC.

### **III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes were approved as written for the meeting held on 8/24/05.

A hard copy of the minutes will be mailed to Reginald Daye, Regional Advocate.

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

There are no vacancies for committee members on this LHRC.

Existing human rights regulations are in a draft format, and are currently awaiting feedback by cabinet secretaries. The revised regulations can be viewed on the web: <http://www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov/documents/OHR-RevisedRegulations.pdf>

## **V. NEW BUSINESS:**

Since Dr. Hawthorne has been absent the past two meetings, his Committee position will need to be replaced with a family member of a consumer. It can be a family member of someone in one of our programs. Call Mr. Daye's office for an application.

Mr. Daye reported the next Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) conference will probably be in the spring. At the last State Human Rights Committee (SHRC) board meeting in October, Mr. Daye reported the Committee proposed changes to the way we currently communicate the LHRC meeting minutes. A draft of the minutes will be forwarded to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director, to be posted on the state website ([margaret.walsh@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov](mailto:margaret.walsh@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov)) within ten (10) business days of the Committee meeting. The approved minutes are to be posted within three (3) business days. As a result of the proposed changes the minutes from the executive session will refer to case #s, not initials. Mr. Daye will keep providers informed of the final decisions. Due to the "Freedom of Information Act", there must also be a posting at each provider site of the date and location of all scheduled LHRC meetings.

A draft of the Hampton Roads Regional LHRC Provider Responsibilities Agreement 2006 for the affiliate representatives was discussed. The Committee voted and approved to accept the draft as written.

Bill Miller, currently managing the finances, reported a balance of \$834 as of 11/16/05. There will be a further discussion at the next meeting regarding the amount of dues affiliates will need to pay this year.

## **VI. NEW PROGRAMS REQUESTING AFFILIATION:**

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. requested temporary affiliation for an additional site in Newport News that would house records for clients in that area. The Committee voted and approved temporary affiliation for the additional site.

G.R.A.C.E., Inc. requested temporary affiliation for a second facility in Hampton that would mirror their current services and clientele. The Committee voted and approved temporary affiliation for the second facility.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. also requested temporary affiliation for a second facility that would mirror their current services and clientele. The Committee voted and approved temporary affiliation for the second facility.

Tranquility Manor, LLC also requested temporary affiliation for a third facility that was licensed in October 2005. They were instructed to send a letter to the State Office of Human Rights as to the location, the type of facility, and who will be managing it. The Committee voted and approved temporary affiliation for the additional facility.

All four of the above programs were instructed to submit letters requesting to use the same Human Rights policies and LHRC for their additional facility. All temporary affiliations are contingent on meeting the required provider responsibilities.

## **VII. PROGRAM REPORTS:**

Commonwealth Support Systems – 21 individuals are in day support, and 7 are receiving in-home residential support. No seclusion or restraints reported, but two incidents of peer-to-peer abuse were reported.

Community Services of Virginia, Inc. – 93 consumers (44 are receiving in-home services, 17 in day support programs, and 32 are group home residents). No seclusion or restraints reported, but two new allegations of abuse were reported. A previous allegation of abuse will also be reviewed in closed session.

Emerson Place, Inc. – 3 residential consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported. A progress report of an approved behavioral plan that includes the use of a protective device must be presented to the LHRC at each quarterly meeting.

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. – 50 in-home counseling cases (27 males and 23 females). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

G.R.A.C.E., Inc. – 3 residential consumers. One restraint reported, but no complaints or abuse reported.

James Bentley Treatment Program – 1 residential consumer. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. – 20 individuals are in residential support, and 0 are receiving in-home services. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Sentara Mental Health Services – 30 inpatients. One seclusion and one restraint reported, but no complaints or abuse reported.

Sentara Senior Behavioral Health Services – 26 outpatients. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Tranquility Manor, LLC – 13 residential consumers, and 16 day support consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Unique Friends, LLC – 6 consumers are in residential support, and 2 are receiving in-home services. No seclusion or restraints reported, but one allegation of abuse was reported.

## **VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Committee voted to go into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review a behavior plan submitted by Emerson Place, Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the behavior plan. The Committee recommended to continue the behavior plan, update the plan quarterly, and report related information to the LHRC.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review two incidents of peer-to-peer abuse at Commonwealth Support Systems. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the two incidents of peer-to-peer abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for Commonwealth Support Systems.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review two new allegations of abuse as well as a previous (pending) allegation of abuse at Community Services of Virginia, Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the three allegations of abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for Community Services of Virginia, Inc.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review allegations of abuse at Unique Friends, LLC. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the alleged abuse or allegation cases. The Committee had no further recommendations for Unique Friends, LLC.

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2006, 9:30 AM sharp at Family Redirection Institute, Inc., 3401 County Street, Portsmouth, VA (398-0200).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Joanna Stinespring, RNC  
LHRC Program Support Liaison

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Dr. Roderick Hawthorne  
LHRC Chairman